THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Union Minister of Water Resources has requested the Chief Minister of Karnataka to favourably view the request of Andhra Pradesh.

Implementation of Stage-IV Cauvery Water Supply Scheme

2306. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has submitted a proposal for implementation of the Stage IV Phase-I of the Cauvery Water Supply Scheme through financial assistance from Japan Bank for International Co-operation during 2003-04; and

(b) if so, what are the details and the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) As informed by the Government of Karnataka, the "Cauvery Water Supply Project, Stage-IV, Phase-I" has since been completed. The proposal for "Cauvery Water Supply Project, Stage-IV, Phase-II" of the State Government of Karnataka at an estimated cost of Rs. 3672 crore recommended by the Union Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation (Department of Urban Development) has been posed to the Government of Japan on 23.4.2003 for assistance from JBIC under 2003-04 loan package by the Department of Economic Affairs. As per information available, this project proposal has not been approved by the Government of Japan for funding under financial year 2003 package.

Mahadayi Diversion Project in Karnataka

2307. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURHTY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had kept its approval for the Mahadayi diversion project in Karnataka in abeyance;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Karnataka Government has requested the Central Government to accord early approval to the above project; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The 'in-principle' clearance granted by the Ministry has been held in abeyance keeping in view the strong objection of Government of Goa and their request for setting up an inter-State Water Disputes Tribunal to resolve this dispute.

(c) Yes, Sir. Government of Karnataka has requested to revoke the abeyance order at the earliest.

(d) The abeyance order has not been revoked by the Central Government since the dispute has not been resolved by an agreement between the two States.

Release of additional water from Krishna

2308. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested Karnataka for release of additional water from Krishna;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Karnataka Government thereto and what was the Central Government's response to intervene and ensure due satisfaction of Andhra Government's demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh *vide* his letter dated 1st September, 2003 requested Government of Karnataka for release of 50 thousand million cubic feet of water from Almatti Dam to supplement the cultivation in delta system and to meet the drinking water requirement in Nagarjuna Sagar ayacut, Rayalaseema and Telangana areas.

(c) The Central Government requested Government of Karnataka to favourably view the request of Andhra Pradesh. The Chief Ministers of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh also held a meeting on this subject on 20th September, 2003 at Bangalore.